



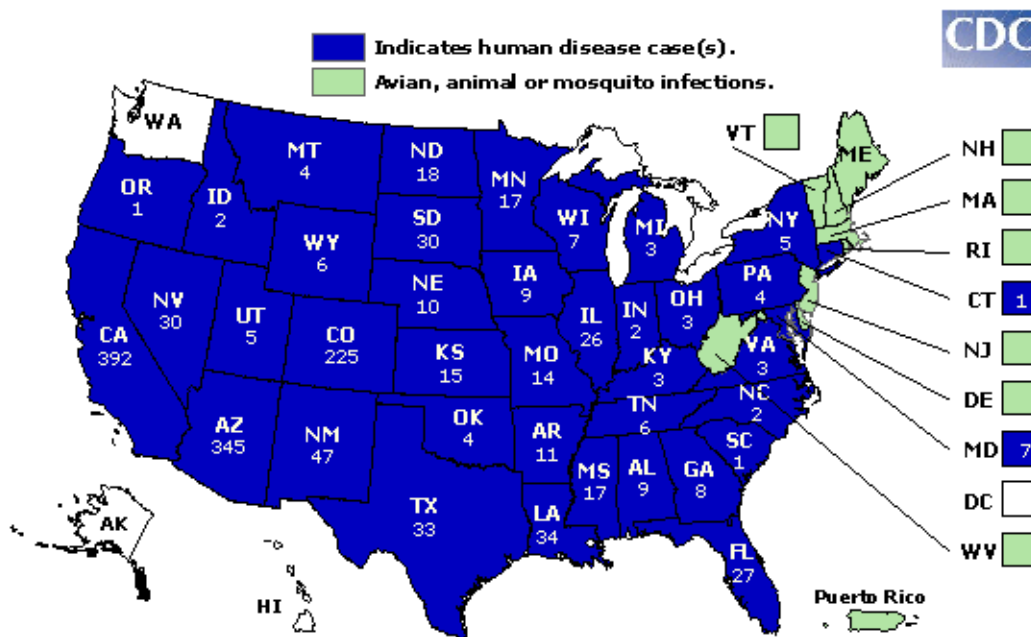
West Nile Virus Newsletter

For the second year, the Department of Health (DOH) is using this electronic newsletter as a regular communication tool for West Nile virus (WNV). It will be provided routinely throughout the summer to keep our partners informed about WNV in Washington State, as well as information from other areas of the country.

Surveillance News

Provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

2004 West Nile Virus Activity in the United States (reported to CDC as of September 14, 2004)



1,386 cases thus far in 2004, 4,137 cases the same week of 2003

As of September 14, 2004, 39 states have reported a total of 1,386 human cases of WNV illness to CDC through ArboNET for 2004. Among 1,347 WNV cases with clinical and demographic

data available, the median age was 51 years (range 1 month -99 years) and 764 (57 percent) were males. Of these 1,347 cases, 468 (35 percent) were neuroinvasive. In 2004, there have been a total of 35 published WNV-related fatalities. Of these 35 fatal cases clinical and demographic data were available on 34. The median age of these 34 decedents was 74 years (range 43-91 years).

Additional information about national WNV activity is available from CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm>. Maps detailing county-level human, mosquito, veterinary, avian and sentinel data are published each week on the collaborative USGS/CDC WNV website: <http://westnilemaps.usgs.gov>.

Washington Non-human Surveillance Summary

Reported to Washington State Department of Health as of September 16, 2004

County	Horses*		Birds**		Sentinel Flocks		Mosquito Pools***	
	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive
Adams	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Asotin	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Benton	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0
Chelan	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Clallam	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Clark	1	0	32	0	0	0	22	0
Columbia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	0	0	12	0	0	0	17	0
Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ferry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Franklin	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Garfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grant	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Grays Harbor	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Island	2	0	13	0	0	0	0	0
Jefferson	0	0	5	0	0	0	53	0
King	1	0	54	0	0	0	5	0
Kitsap	0	0	0	0	0	0	241	0
Kittitas	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Klickitat	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lewis	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mason	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Okanogan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Pend Oreille	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pierce	0	0	17	0	0	0	215	0
San Juan	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Skagit	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Skamania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Snohomish	1	0	58	0	0	0	21	0
Spokane	3	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Stevens	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0

Thurston	1	0	22	0	0	0	0	0
Wahkiakum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Walla Walla	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Whatcom	2	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Whitman	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Yakima	1	0	3	0	0	0	32	0
Totals	17	0	323	0	0	0	606	0

*An additional 12 equine tested negative, but were not included in the table because county/state information was not available.

** A total 336 birds have been submitted for testing, of which 13 were unsuitable and not tested for WNV. An additional 54 bird specimens are pending.

*** USACHPPM-West Report Dated: September 10, 2004, WADDL Report Dated: September 10, 2004, and Clark County Mosquito District Reported: September 8, 2004.

Oregon Confirms First Human Case of West Nile Virus

By the Oregon Department of Human Services, September 10, 2004

The state public health laboratory has confirmed the first Oregon case of WNV infection in a Malheur County resident, officials at the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) said today.

“We are glad to say the individual has fully recovered and is doing well,” said Mel Kohn, M.D, state epidemiologist at DHS. “Last month, West Nile was detected in the bird and horse populations, so the fact that a person was also infected is not a surprise.”

The complete news release is at <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/news/2004news/2004-0910.html>.

Idaho: West Nile Virus Discovered in Ada County Man

By the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, September 15, 2004

An Ada County man has tested positive for WNV, the third human case reported in Idaho this year and the first reported human case in Idaho’s most populous county. The man, in his seventies, is expected to make a full recovery. The announcement was made by Central District Health Department and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare on Wednesday, September 15th.

“Last week we had two human cases of WNV reported in Gooding and Elmore counties, and we continue to receive new reports of bird and horse infections,” says Dr. Christine Hahn, Idaho State Epidemiologist. “Mosquito season is still with us -- people need to protect themselves and their families and ‘Fight the Bite’ of mosquitoes.”

In the last several weeks, WNV infections have been reported in animals and people in the Idaho counties of Ada, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Gooding and Twin Falls. Besides the three Idaho human infections reported, there have been nine horses, four birds and one alpaca that have tested positive for the virus as of September 15th. Nationally, almost 1,400 human cases of WNV have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2004, contributing to 35 deaths.

The news release continues at

<http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/DesktopModules/Articles/ArticlesView.aspx?TabID=0&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en-US&ItemID=443&mid=10363>.

Washington is one of two remaining lower 48 state without a human West Nile virus case

OLYMPIA — Recent confirmation of human cases of WNV illness in Oregon and Idaho leave Washington and Maine as the only states in the lower 48 that have not reported a human case acquired in state since the United States outbreak began in 1999. As the disease has spread into our bordering states, a random survey of Washington residents reveals many don't take the threat of WNV very seriously and aren't doing enough to protect themselves.

"West Nile virus is closing in on our state," said State Health Officer Dr. Maxine Hayes. "It's true there is no cure for the illness caused by West Nile virus, yet we all have the power to do something about it and reduce our chance of exposure — simple things like wearing long sleeves and long pants and using insect repellent with DEET."

An Elway poll commissioned by the Department of Health in late summer asked a series of questions about concerns over WNV. Thirty-three percent said they were "not very concerned" that someone in their household might catch WNV; 30 percent were "somewhat concerned" and only 13 percent were "very concerned." This attitude is reflected in personal protection behavior, as well: only 24 percent of respondents said they are using the insect repellent, DEET; and 31 percent are wearing a long sleeve shirt or long pants at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active. But 51 percent say they're draining standing water from containers around the home to reduce potential mosquito breeding habitat.

The complete news release is available at http://www.doh.wa.gov/Publicat/2004_news/04-109.htm.

Community Comments

Let us hear your comments on this newsletter, your needs, or things you would like to see, by sending them to Maryanne Guichard, 360.236.3391 or maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov

WNV Web Resources

Washington State Department of Health www.doh.wa.gov/wnv

Center for Disease Control and Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/>

Washington State University Cooperative Extension <http://wnv.wsu.edu/>

Cornell University, Center for Environment <http://www.cfe.cornell.edu/erap/WNV>

Washington State Department of Agriculture

<http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/Diseases/WestNileVirus/default.htm>

Article Submission

We are interested in receiving articles for future publications of the WNV newsletter. Please submit articles to Tom Gibbs, tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov.

DOH Contact List for West Nile Virus

General Public Toll-Free Hotline 1.866.78VIRUS

Publications: Brochures/Response Plan/Fact Sheets

Laura Harper, 360.236.3380, or laura.harper@doh.wa.gov.

Surveillance: Mosquito

Jo Marie Brauner, 360.236.3064, or jomarie.brauner@doh.wa.gov.

Surveillance: Dead bird surveillance, horses, case reporting, laboratory assistance, and general WNV response

Tom Gibbs, 360.236.3060, or tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov.

NPDES: Training, technical assistance

Ben Hamilton, 360.236.3364, or benjamin.hamilton@doh.wa.gov.

WNV in Humans: Clinical information, case reporting, and laboratory testing

Call your local health jurisdiction or DOH Communicable Disease Epidemiology, 206.361.2914 or 877.539.4344.

Assistance with news releases and media response

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